

## DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

*new* SEE 865d.01/237 FOR #132

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED Dec. 22, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 070

REGARDING: Departure from Rome of a mission composed of four engineers sent by National Association of Electrical Companies for Addis Ababa. They will study problem of producing and distributing electricity in the principal centers of the "Empire"

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## NOTE

SEE 884.6461 Tsana Dam/580 FOR #908

FROM Egypt ( Fish ) DATED Jan.19, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 ope

REGARDING: Lake Tsana.

Conversation with R.M. MacGregor who stated that in his opinion the Italians would use Lake Tsana largely for hydroelectric development in Ethiopia and commented on the value of a dam at Lake Tsana to the Egyptians. Interest of the Egyptians in development of the Sudan region of the White Nile. Effect of dam at Lake Tsana on the Egyptian cotton crop.

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## NOTE

SEE 865d.01/290 FOR Despatch #383

FROM Italy (Phillips) DATED May 28, 1937  
TO NAME 1-1127 GPO

REGARDING: River projects and hydroelectric works- Italian East Africa.

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Commercial and Industrial Development.

Deposits of limestone suitable for the manufacture of cement, are reported to have been discovered about fifty kilometers from Addis Ababa. On September 5 the Committee of Ministers for the Defense of Savings and the Exercise of Credit, under the chairmanship of the Duce, authorized the creation of a cement company to exploit the cement resources of Ethiopia. The principal Italian cement companies are to contribute its capital, which will amount to ten million lire and may be increased to twenty million.

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### 3. River Projects and Hydroelectric Plants.    The

question of river communications warrants special consideration, since such communications will represent a great economy, both for trade with the Sudan and throughout other regions. Projects for the Webi Shebelle and Giuba rivers have already been drawn up in detail. As to the Webi Shebelle, it is a question of regulating the lower course of the river and completing the systemization of the Canale system. As regards the Giuba, works consist of the erection of levees and the enclosing of various flood zones along the course of the river (Dassek) which are very fertile and suited to cultivation. When these improvements on the two rivers are completed, it is expected that the agriculture of Somalia will be considerably benefited by the development of new cultivation and industrial enterprises.

Large sums of money will be allotted to all the governments of Italian East Africa for the initial construction of hydro-electric plants.

The Ministry of Colonies is said to be considering thousands of requests of firms for authorization to do business in Ethiopia. On September 16 it gave out the first list of firms so authorized, comprising 18 manufacturers of building materials and 33 road construction firms. The Ministry at the same time made public a list of 18 road construction firms and 234 commercial firms which have been recommended to the Government General of Italian East Africa.

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## NOTE

SEE 865d.00/34 FOR Report #44

FROM Naples ( McCloud ) DATED April 28, 1938  
TO NAME 1-1127 070

REGARDING: Electric power - Italian East Africa.  
Compagnia Nazionale Imprese Elettriche (C.O.N.I.E.L.)  
has taken over the function of furnishing Addis Ababa  
and other cities with electric power.

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H. Manufacturing and Industrial Plants.

Many of the pursuits falling under this heading have been discussed along with the industries to which they pertain. Several others, outstanding in the general economic scheme, which because of their nature may be treated separately are as follows:

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A) Electricity. Recently the "Compagnia Nazionale Imprese Elettriche" (C.O.N.I.E.L) is understood to have taken over the function of furnishing Addis Abeba and other cities with electric power. Branch managing offices and workshops have been set up at the following places: Addis Abeba, Dire Dawa, Harar, Dessiè, Gondar and Decamerè. In the capital city construction has been started of a thermoelectric central plant in the plant industrial zone of the city. So as to use available local fuel the motors of this plant will use "gasogene". Estimated output, - 2,000 HP. of which 1,300 HP. is to be currently used, the remainder to be kept in reserve. It is expected that this plant will start operations in June 1938. The energy supplied by the new plant, together with that obtained from other sources, is estimated to be sufficient for illuminating and industrial purposes for the entire city except however those plants operating under their own power systems.

It is also reported that a large hydro-electrical station will be built near Adama.



Central File: Decimal File 865D.6463, Internal Affairs Of States, Engineering., Power., Italian East Africa, Electric., December 22, 1937 - April 28, 1938. December 22, 1937 - April 28, 1938. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, [link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109727822%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC](https://link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109727822%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC). Accessed 18 June 2025.